

MINUTES

Agriculture and NYS Horse Breeding Development Fund

Board of Trustees Meeting

NYS Racing & Wagering Board

March 21, 2011

Present: NYSR&WB Chairman John Sabini, NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets Acting Commissioner Darrel Aubertine, Trustee Keith Hamilton, Trustee Joe Angiolillo, Breeding Fund (Fund) Executive Director Peter Goold, Audience included: NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets Deputy Commissioner Jackie Moody-Czub, Harness Horse Breeders Treasurer Betty Holt, Michael Kimelman of Blue Chip Farms, NYSR&WB Executive Assistant Kristen Buckley, Executive Director Ron Ochrym, Attorney Robert Feuerstein.

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 PM.

Agenda Item # 1. Public Comment - Chairman Sabini called for Public Comment. Michael Kimelman praised the current Board of Trustees and staff for doing a good job administering what has become the best standardbred sire stakes program in the nation.

Agenda Item # 2. Minutes of Last Meeting - Motion by Trustee Hamilton, seconded by Trustee Angiolillo to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2010 meeting as presented. All in favor.

Agenda Item #3. Financial Statement and Investments: Chairman Sabini asked Director Goold to comment on the February financial statement. Goold noted that handle revenue is up by \$550,000 driven mainly by gaming revenue from the 7 harness tracks. OTB handle and revenue are down 66% compared to last year, due mainly to the demise of New York City OTB. Goold noted that in line with the board's long-standing guidance, all spare cash continues to be invested in the Short Term Investment Pool (STIP) administered by the Office of the New York State Comptroller. Trustee Hamilton offered a motion, seconded by Trustee Aubertine, to approve the financial statement and investment of capital as presented. All in favor.

Agenda Item # 4. Chairman Sabini summarized the attached staff memo to all Trustees requesting a \$2,000 grant to the Hemlock Fair for a harness horse display in their new Heritage Museum. Trustee Hamilton noted that the Hemlock Fair does an excellent job and had already raised \$17,000 through its own fundraising efforts. Mr. Hamilton noted that this type of grant would be setting a precedent and therefore it might be well to set a formula such as making the Fund's grant a straight 10% of the money raised by the fair. Trustee Hamilton offered a motion to this effect, seconded by Trustee Aubertine. All in Favor.

Agenda Item # 5. Public Authority Accountability Committees: Chairman Sabini read aloud the attached staff memo recommending that the Breeding Fund Board of Trustees designate itself to be a “committee of the whole” with regard to the audit and governance committees required by the Public Authority Accountability Act (PAAA). Chairman noted that audit and governance issues have always been discussed by the whole board anyway so why not align committee structure with current practice. Since all trustees readily agreed with this approach the Chairman said that the minutes should reflect this approach as a unanimously agreed upon sense of the board.

Agenda Item # 6. Breeding Fund 2011 Budget: Chairman requested comments from Director Goold who briefly summarized the major aspects of the 2011 budget. Revenue is expected to rise slightly from 2011, New York Sire Stakes purses will be down slightly from 2010 due mainly to the demise of New York City OTB. Breeders awards are expected to hold steady at about \$1.2 million for the year. Motion by Trustee Aubertine, seconded by Trustee Hamilton to approve the 2011 budget as presented. All in favor.

Agenda Item # 7. Executive Session: Motion by Trustee Aubertine, seconded by Trustee Hamilton to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. All in favor.

After the session a motion was made by Trustee Aubertine, seconded by Trustee Hamilton to exit the executive session. All in favor.

Chairman Sabini offered a motion to accept the resignation of Director Goold as Executive Director effective March 21, 2011, seconded by Trustee Hamilton. All in favor.

Chairman Sabini offered a motion to contemporaneously appoint Mr. Goold to serve as the Administrative Assistant at his Executive Director’s salary effective March 22 for a period of two weeks through April 3, 2011, after which a consulting contract be let for the period of April 4, 2011 through June 13, 2011 for transition purposes at a rate of \$6,000. per month for Mr. Goold. Seconded by Trustee Aubertine. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter Goold, Executive Director

Motion by Chairman Sabini, seconded by Trustee Aubertine, to Appoint Timothy P. Gordon of Slingerlands, NY to the position of Executive Director at the salary last paid to the Executive Director. All in favor. Chairman Sabini and Trustees Hamilton and Angiolillo, praised Mr.

Goold for his service to the Fund. Mr. Gordon thanked the Board and also thanked Mr. Goold for his service.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Aubertine and seconded by Trustee Hamilton. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Gordon, Executive Director